

What is claimed is:

- Sub
Q2
1. A connector for electrically connecting a chip and a conductive contact pin, comprising:
 - the chip being comprised of a nonconducting top layer, a nonconducting bottom layer and a conductive sheet situated in between the top layer and the bottom layer;
 - the chip including a passageway at least partially therethrough; and
 - the passageway including means for holding the pin in contact with the sheet and for restraining the pin from translating with respect to the chip.
 2. The electrical connector as defined in Claim 1 wherein:
 - the holding means includes means for applying a frictional force against the pin, whereby
 - a withdrawal of the pin from the passageway is resisted.
 3. The electrical connector as defined in Claim 2 wherein:
 - the pin has a lateral side; and
 - the holding means includes means for applying a normal force against the side, whereby
 - the frictional force is generated when a force is applied to the pin in a direction that would, in the absence of the frictional force, withdraw the pin from the passageway.
 4. The electrical connector as defined in Claim 2 wherein:
 - the passageway includes an opening through the sheet; and
 - the opening has a breadth that increases when the pin is inserted therethrough.

0985434-061901

- Cont
Sub
Q2
5. The electrical connector as defined in Claim 4 wherein:
the passageway is further comprised of a top hole through the top layer,
and a bottom hole through the bottom layer; and
the top hole, the bottom hole and the opening are aligned.
6. The electrical connector as defined in Claim 5 wherein:
the opening, when unstressed, has an unstressed minimum breadth;
the pin is cylindrical and has a diameter;
the unstressed minimum breadth is smaller than the diameter of the pin;
the opening has a periphery; and
the sheet is comprised of a flexible material so that the periphery can
deflect into the bottom hole when the pin is inserted into the opening.
7. The electrical connector as defined in Claim 5 wherein the sheet is
composed of a flexible material so that the breadth varies responsive to the
contact pin being inserted therethrough.
8. The electrical connector as defined in Claim 7 wherein:
the breadth varies between an unstressed minimum breath and a stressed
breath, with the stressed breath being greater than the unstressed minimum
breath;
the contact pin has a diameter greater than the unstressed minimum
breadth; and
the breadth increases to the stressed breadth in response to the contact pin
being inserted into the opening.
9. The electrical connector as defined in Claim 8 wherein the opening is
formed by a plurality of fingers extending centripetally from a section of the
sheet that circumscribes the opening.

09885434.061904
T06T90.4E458860

10. The electrical connector as defined in Claim 8 wherein:
the top hole has a top hole diameter and the bottom hole has a bottom hole diameter; and
the top hole diameter is smaller than the bottom hole diameter.
11. The electrical connector as defined in Claim 1 comprising means for preventing rotation of the pin with respect to the chip.
12. The electrical connector as defined in Claim 1 further comprising:
a plurality of passageways through the chip; and
a harness including a plurality of the pins spatially arranged so that each of the pins can be simultaneously aligned with one of the passageways, respectively, whereby
all of the pins can be simultaneously inserted into passageways, respectively, and
the harness is prevented from translating or rotating relative to the chip by the holding means when the contact pins are respectively inserted into the passageways.
13. The electrical connector as defined in Claim 12 wherein:
each holding means is electrically isolated from the other holding means and is electrically connected to a respective chip element, whereby
each chip element is electrically connected to a respective contact pin when the contact pins are respectively inserted into the passageways.
14. The electrical connector as defined in Claim 1 wherein:
the chip is from 0.5 to 2.0 millimeters thick; and
the sheet is from 0.05 to 0.2 millimeters thick.

15. A connector for electrically connecting a chip and a conductive contact pin, comprising:

the chip including a nonconducting top layer, a nonconducting bottom layer, and an electrical element;

a conductive sheet situated in between the top layer and the bottom layer, and being electrically connected to the element;

the top layer having a top hole therethrough, and the bottom layer having a bottom hole therethrough, with the top hole and the bottom hole being in alignment and comprising an aligned hole pair;

the sheet having an opening aligned with the aligned hole pair; and

the opening including means for holding the pin in contact with the sheet when the pin is inserted into the opening, whereby

the pin is prevented from translating with respect to the chip and an electrical connection between the pin and the element is established and maintained.

16. The electrical connector as defined in Claim 15 wherein:

the chip is from 0.5 to 2.0 millimeters thick; and

the sheet is from 0.05 to 0.2 millimeters thick.

17. The electrical connector as defined in Claim 15 comprising:

a plurality of the aligned hole pairs and openings; and

a harness including a plurality of the pins spatially arranged so that each of the contact pins can be simultaneously aligned with one of the aligned hole pairs and openings, whereby

each of the contact pins can be simultaneously inserted into one of the aligned hole pairs and openings, respectively, and

the harness is held stationary relative to the chip by the holding means when the pins are inserted.

18. A method for electrically connecting a chip and a conductive contact pin, ~~comprising mechanically holding the pin in a passageway in the chip while establishing and maintaining an electrical connection between the pin and an electrical element embedded in the chip.~~

19. The connecting method recited in Claim 18 wherein mechanically holding the contact pin in the passageway is carried out by generating a frictional force acting on the pin.

20. The connecting method recited in Claim 19 wherein generating the frictional force is carried out by applying a normal force against the pin.

21. The connecting method recited in Claim 20 additionally providing the chip with a flexible conductive sheet electrically connected to the electrical element and having an opening aligned with the passageway, wherein the electrical connection is maintained and the normal force is applied by inserting the pin into the opening and deforming the opening.

22. The connecting method recited in Claim 21 comprising:
providing a plurality of passageways and openings; and
attaching a plurality of the pins to a rigid harness and spatially arranging the pins so that each of the pins can be simultaneously inserted into one of the passageways and the opening aligned therewith.

Add
A₃ →